

Saint Louis Audubon Bulletin

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OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, 1949



LEONARD HALL

Audubon Conservation Award to Leonard Hall

On Tuesday, November 29, the 1949 Audubon Conservation Citation will be presented to Leonard Hall. The award is made annually in recognition of outstanding work in conservation. This year it recognizes the wide influence Mr. Hall has exerted through his writings; public appearances; the example set by his "Possum Trot Farm"; and active participation in organized activities to promote conservation of American resources. Previous recipients have included: Sterling P. Jones, Edward K. Love, Wayne Short, Luther Ely Smith.

Program feature of the evening, in tribute to Mr. Hall, will be a Screen Tour by William Ferguson of Omaha, presenting "High Horizons," a Rocky Mountain nature-logue, of wildlife adventures, in color motion pictures.

Adventures for December . . .

FOR EVERYBODY. Are you aware of the fun of studying birds in winter? At feeders, in suburban yards, meadows and woods, near rivers and lakes, there are things to see. It is always fun to anticipate. So we're going to give a partial list of birds you might expect in December: cardinals, juncos, chickadees, blue jays and titmice, of course; the winter wren; woodpeckers—all seven kinds are possible; shrikes, horned larks, and sometimes a robin or a mockingbird or a towhee; nuthatches, brown creepers, and waxwings; several species of sparrows; purple finch, bluebird, bob-white, kingfisher; any of the native owls; some 8 or 9 species of hawks; and bald and golden eagles! These are some of the land birds you may expect to see. Also, along the rivers, herring gulls, killdeer, and several species of ducks—some of them still headed southward, and others as winter visitors.

AND FOR THE EXPERTS? You can be an expert, too. Just look sharp! To find rarities, here's advice from Earl Comfort: Study a flock of birds. Watch for the junco

colored unlike the others—Montana junco. A nuthatch that's rusty-color below, with black eye-stripe—the red-breasted. A waxwing that's larger and grayer, with white on the wing—the Bohemian. The larger shrike, with wavy bars on the breast—Northern shrike rather than the migrant.

In the level fields watch closely for longspurs, horned larks and the uncommon snow bunting. That bump on a stump in the snow may prove to be a snowy owl. The funny-looking duck may not be an odd decoy but the striking old squaw species. Go to Alton Lake region for the water birds and eagles. That's one of the places for hawks, too.

AND FOR THE LUCKY ONES . . . perhaps if you've been good, and washed behind your ears, and are in the right place, at the right time, you might run into evening grosbeak, or a crossbill, or a far-from-common common loon. And the all dark eagle may not be a young bald. If it's

(Turn to Page 2)

Unusual Opportunity to Purchase Original Painting by George M. Sutton

The distinguished artist-naturalist, considered one of the very finest bird artists of our day, is selling five of his originals, as a contribution to the Louis Agassiz Fuyertes Scholarship grants. The scholarship goes to an ornithology student, and is awarded through the Wilson Club. It is not often that a Sutton original is available at all, and the value of these paintings will increase as time goes on.

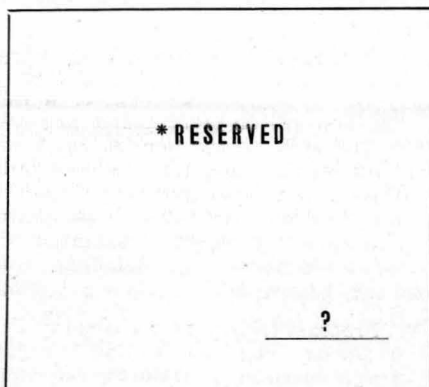
Great Horned Owl (framed oil).....	\$50
Pileated Woodpecker (framed oil).....	\$75
Sandhill Cranes (framed watercolor).....	\$50
Baltimore Oriole (framed watercolor).....	\$50
Red-tailed Hawk (framed pencil sketch).....	\$35

They may be seen at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Doering 485 Clemens, Kirkwood, on December 1, Thursday, from 7 to 10. Checks should be payable to George Miksch Sutton.

* For You —

Our chief objective is to make the bulletins as interesting and valuable as space and material will permit.

We will save the space; you send the material! What is your favorite quotation, poem or anecdote? Send us a card. (Ed.)



"Your Dates"

New this year is the pocket-sized folder listing in sequence "Your Dates with the St. Louis Audubon Society" — including all activities of the current season. On the back is a handy calendar. If you don't already have one of these cards be sure to pick one up at the next meeting.

Orchids for Dogwood

"Orchids" to the Ladue Garden Club for their project of planting dogwood. Besides the beauty of the dogwood itself, it is sure to attract many species of birds. The "Audubon Guide to Attracting Birds" lists flowering dogwood as among the very finest plants for providing food, nesting place and cover.

Going to Florida?

One of our members recommends a vacation at "Sea-Wings-Over" Anastasia Island, St. Augustine. Clifford Pangburn, Box 1470, has one cottage, for 3 or 4 people, at a beautiful and quiet "birding spot." Write him for details.

Editor Asks A Favor

It would be a big help if all reports of unusual and interesting bird finds were to come in not by phone but by CARD or LETTER. Be sure to include date seen, the place, and who the observers were.

ADVENTURES FOR DECEMBER . . .

(From Page One)

chunkier, and a bit larger, with larger head and bill, it's a golden. You might come up with a pine siskin, or a red-poll, this December. They're on the "possible list," too, as are all the species mentioned in this article. This is just a starting guide. Take along Peterson and Jones Check list. After a December day outdoors, toes may be cold, list may even be short; but you're sure to come back with a heart that is light.

ST. LOUIS AUDUBON BULLETIN

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Observations



CALL OF THE WILD A stirring experience to all who heard it was the unprecedented record-sized flight of geese migrating over St. Louis this fall. Referring to the October flights of ducks and geese the Post-Dispatch on its editorial page wrote "There is a symphony in the sky these frosty mornings."

* * *

RARE VISITOR last summer was a reddish egret, seen by Earl Comfort July 29, near Chain of Rocks. Also seen by Bruce Tanner.

* * *

WESTERN INVASION Well, hardly an invasion. But the western meadowlark and Brewer's blackbird have been reported more frequently in recent years, as have several other species such as Wilson's phalarope confirming Peterson's opinion that many western species are extending their range eastward.

* * *

WILD GOOSE CHASE to Swan Lake area, opposite Pere Marquette Park is recommended. Large flocks of mixed snow and blue geese, as well as Canadas, have been seen there recently.

* * *

AIGRETTES The beautiful breeding plumes of the American egret were observed on some birds during the summer, leading to speculation as to whether some of them were nesting nearby. But no specific report of nesting came in.

* * *

PHEASANT IN HER GARDEN Mrs. Oliver Branneky, of Pattonville, member, reported they found a ring-necked pheasant feeding in their garden this fall. She also recommends that our gardening members plant sunflower seed, for use in winter feeding.

OTHER UNUSUAL BIRDS: Buff-breasted sandpiper, by Jim Comfort, near Kratz airport. Later reported at Creve Coeur, by Bill Bremser, Jr. Father Link: duck hawk at Marais Temps Clair, and yellow-crowned night heron at Pere Marquette. Jack Van Benthuyzen: Hudsonian curlew and Hutchins's geese in September. Bro. Hubert Lewis saw red-breasted nuthatches at Gray's Summit, in October. Horned grebe, white pelican, common loon, Wilson's phalarope, pine siskin, western meadow larks were all observed this fall, too.

* * *

MORE LONG EARS Absent from St. Louis reports for many years, 15 were seen early this year and now the Bremers saw 8 of them at Swan Lake, during November.

* * *

WILDLIFE SURVEY at Weldon Springs, in cooperation with the Webster Groves Nature Study Society. Monthly census of various trails, to study effects of changing habitats, inaugurated this fall.

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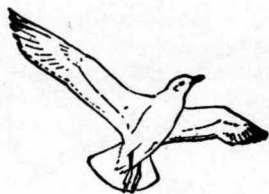
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Who's Who?

Our Thanks to:

the many committee members and chairmen of committees whose contributions of energy and effort are the reason for the continued and growing success of the St. Louis Audubon Society.

the Door Committee, Erna Nauert, Chairman; John McGuire, Paul Bauer, Arthur Pfaff, Jim Ziervogel, Marion Aulbach, Eugene Wilhelm.

the Membership Committee, Mildred Reese, Chairman; Mrs. Wm. Bremser, Grace Rinderknecht, Erna Pfaff, Lois Wamhoff, Camille Wamhoff, Avelina Soto, Martha Morgan.

Bruce Tanner, Supply Chairman.

Mrs. Verna Van, Telephone Chairman and Service Committee Chairman.

Earl H. Hath, Educational Chairman, in charge of Junior Clubs.

Mrs. Roy Battenberg, Chairman of the Pere Marquette field Trip.

Richard Kahdeman, Chairman of the Nature Photography Exhibit. And the photographic artists represented therein: Clara Beerman, J. G. Princell, Mrs. Wm. Scarlett, Martin Schweig Jr., Bro. Hubert Lewis, John Gerard.

Kurt Wesseling, Chairman of Christmas Bird Census.

Camille and Lois Wamhoff, Chairmen of the Shaw's Garden Bird Walks.

Botany Committee, Lois Brenner, Chairman.

Program Committee, Wayne Short, Chairman.

Flower Show Committee, Co-chairmen: Mrs. Geo. Klinkerfuss, Mrs. Percy Coleman, John C. McGuire; and the long list of volunteers who did so much to make the 1949 booth the great success it was.

Elizabeth Golterman, Student Matinee Chairman.

James Earl Comfort, Chairman of "Brushing-up for Bird Walks" program, and assistant editor of the Bulletin.

Paul Neuhooff, Chairman of Spring Bird Census.

Mrs. Wayne Keller, Chairman of Rockwoods Reservation Wildflower Field Trip.

Nature Center Committee, Wm. Neal Kelley, Chairman.

Mrs. J. C. Morgan, Poster Chairman

Mrs. Viola Holliday, Contact Chairman.

This is only a partial list of members generous of time and efforts in Audubon activities. Among others, the grand group of loyal "stuffers," who get together to mail bulletins, announcements, etc. And the group who put their heads together on the St. Louis section of Pettingill's "Guide to Bird Finding." (More about this St. Louis Guide in the next Bulletin.)

To ALL these willing workers the officers say "Thank You," on behalf of ALL the members of the St. Louis Audubon Society.

* * *

BOY SCOUT LIAISON WORK was carried on this past summer through Mr. D. B. Mabry and Mr. Wm. Bremser Sr, who arranged for Audubon members to conduct field trips and give talks at Lion's Den, Scout Camp. Participating in this worthwhile educational project were: Eugene Wilhelm, Bill Bremser Jr., Ed Oechsle, Nick Short.

* * *

Among the lucky St. Louis boys to attend the Philmont Scout Ranch at Cimmaron, New Mexico, under leadership of Larry Burns, were: Bernat Sutter, Charles Wetzel, Bill Groth Jr., Mike Maremont, Lee Schlotthauer, Bill Bremser Jr., This was a geology and nature group. Observations included: elk, buffalo, deer, wild turkey.

* * *

St. Louis was represented at the Audubon Camp in Maine by Helen Bowman, and by Frances Pickel, recipient of the 1949 Audubon Camp Scholarship.